



## Superfund Update



### Cornell-Dubilier Site (Hamilton Industrial Park)

South Plainfield, New Jersey

EPA Region 2

August 1997

#### UPDATE

Investigations conducted by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have identified contaminants including Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) and heavy metals at the Cornell-Dubilier Site and in the Bound Brook adjacent to the site. EPA has initiated a study to determine the impacts of contamination in the Bound Brook on human health and the environment.

Water, sediment and fish samples were collected from the Bound Brook at one location upstream of the site, one location adjacent to the site, three location between the site and New Market Pond, and two locations in New Market Pond.

Fish collected from the Bound Brook as part of this study were found to contain PCBs at levels greater than what is considered safe to eat by the Food and Drug Administration. This information has been provided to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP). NJDEP has issued an interim fish consumption advisory for the Bound Brook and New Market Pond. Signs have been posted by EPA advising people not to eat fish from these waters.

The Cornell-Dubilier Site will be proposed for the federal Superfund National Priorities List of hazardous waste sited in September 1997.

#### BACKGROUND

The Cornell-Dubilier site occupies about 25 acres at 333 Hamilton Boulevard in South Plainfield. It is bordered by Hamilton Boulevard to the northwest, Spicer Avenue to the southwest, a wetlands area to the southeast, the Bound Brook and Conrail tracks to the northeast.

Cornell-Dubilier operated at the Site from 1936 to 1962 manufacturing electronic components, including capacitors. It is alleged that during that during its operation, Cornell-Dubilier disposed of PCB-contaminated materials and other hazardous substances at the site.

The site is currently known as the Hamilton Industrial Park and is occupied by 15 businesses.

#### CLEANUP ACTIONS

Under the federal Superfund law, EPA can respond, reduce or eliminate the threats to public health by conducting their own cleanup or requiring potentially responsible parties (PRPs) to conduct a cleanup.

EPA has issued an Order to the property owner to conduct the following cleanup actions:

- limit access to areas of known PCB contamination;
- take necessary actions to limit the movement of contaminants to the nearby Bound Brook through surface water run-off; and
- pave driveways and parking areas within the industrial park.

This work has started and is expected to be completed in September.

## **FUTURE ACTIONS**

EPA has expanded the study area for the evaluation of threats to human health to include the portions of the Bound Brook between New Market Pond and the Raritan River.

EPA has collected soil samples from residential properties bordering the site. No immediate action is required based on the results of the limited sampling conducted. Additional sampling will be performed to confirm these results. EPA has provided the results of this sampling to the residents of the properties sampled.

## **HEALTH INFORMATION**

For information about the health effects from exposure to PCBs or other environmental contaminants, contact your local health department or the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) at (732) 906-6931.

## **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

EPA encourages public participation during all phases of cleanup activities. If you have questions, or would like additional information about the site, please contact the following EPA personnel:

Pat Seppi  
Community Involvement Coordinator  
U.S. EPA, Communications Division  
290 Broadway, Floor 26  
New York, New York 10007  
(212) 637-3679

Eric Wilson  
On-Scene Coordinator  
2890 Woodbridge Avenue  
Edison, New Jersey 08837  
(732) 906-6991

## **SUPERFUND OMBUDSMAN**

EPA, Region 2, has designated an ombudsman as a point-of-contact for community concerns and questions about the federal Superfund program in New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. To support this effort, the agency has established a 24-hour, toll-free number that the public can call to request information, express their concerns or register complaints about Superfund. The ombudsman for EPA's Region 2 office is:

George H. Zachos  
U.S. EPA, Region 2  
2890 Woodbridge Avenue MS-211  
(732) 321-6621  
Toll-free 888-283-7626

**C**ertain fish in the Bound Brook, New Market Pond, and the streams that feed into them may be unsafe to eat. These include:

- *largemouth bass*
- *pumpkin seed*
- *carp*
- *white sucker*

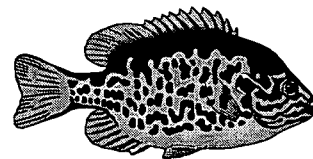
**These fish are unsafe and should not be eaten.**

**F**ish in these streams and ponds are contaminated with PCBs. Consumption of these fish may be harmful to your health. PCBs are classified as probable cancer causing substances in humans.

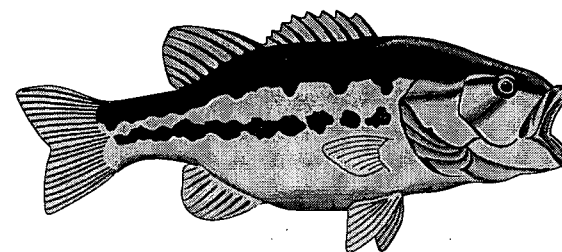
The amount of PCBs in fish from these waters is higher than the amount allowed by the U.S Food and Drug Administration. No one should eat these fish. **You are at highest risk from eating fish contaminated with PCBs if you are:**

- *pregnant*
- *a nursing mother*
- *a woman of child-bearing age*
- *a child under the age of 15 years.*

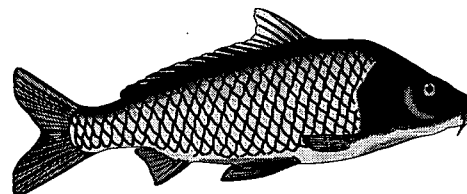
**For information on the health effects of PCBs call:  
ATSDR Regional Representatives, Arthur Block or Brian von  
Gunten at (908) 906-6931**



# ATSDR Fish Consumption Fact Sheet



## Bound Brook New Market Pond



**Middlesex  
County**

**August 1997**

Steven Kinsler, ATSDR

Re: PCB in Fish

ATSDR can evaluate human health risk

- Identify species caught & consumed  $\frac{1}{2}$
- Identify frequency of use
- Done to phy & chem warfare of phy & chem (ie Biot to seeds) prefer sampling analysis of bottom feeders
- Analyze fillets (assumes eating fillet only)

# Fish type of analysis